

P.P.L.  
Sask.  
Prince Albert

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**WHERE CROPS  
ARE SURE**

The  
**Prince Albert District**  
**Prince Albert, Saskatchewan**



A Typical Prince Albert Wheatfield.

**PRINCE ALBERT  
SASKATCHEWAN**

**THE IDEAL SPOT FOR  
THE BRITISH SETTLER**



The beautiful Saskatchewan River at Prince Albert.

**FOR FULL INFORMATION  
WRITE, WIRE, 'PHONE OR CALL**

**J. S. Woodward**  
Secretary of the Board of Trade,  
City Hall,  
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

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## PRINCE ALBERT

### INTRODUCTION.

**T**HIS little pamphlet is intended for those who have already heard or read something about Western Canada. It is hoped that it will prove helpful to any who feel that they are not making the best of their opportunities in the Old Land, by telling them something about a part of the West where their abilities may find scope.

The city of Prince Albert is in the centre of a district that is developing with remarkable rapidity, in which there are openings innumerable for all who are willing to work and ready to adapt themselves to new conditions. For many reasons there is no part of the West so entirely suited to the British Emigrant as the Prince Albert district of Saskatchewan, as a perusal of the following pages will readily show.

### WHERE IS PRINCE ALBERT?

Prince Albert is the most northerly of the four cities of the great Province of Saskatchewan. It lies about 300 miles north of the United States border, and is about 100 miles south of the centre of the Province. Prince Albert is 540 miles from Winnipeg by the Canadian Northern Railway, and 247 miles by rail from Regina on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. At present the Canadian Northern is the only railway reaching the city. There are three branches of this growing system there, but this autumn the Grand Trunk Pacific line will reach Prince Albert, and next year the Canadian Pacific line will be there. Any of the big steamship lines will book you through to Prince Albert, and the railway officials will see that you get on the right trains.

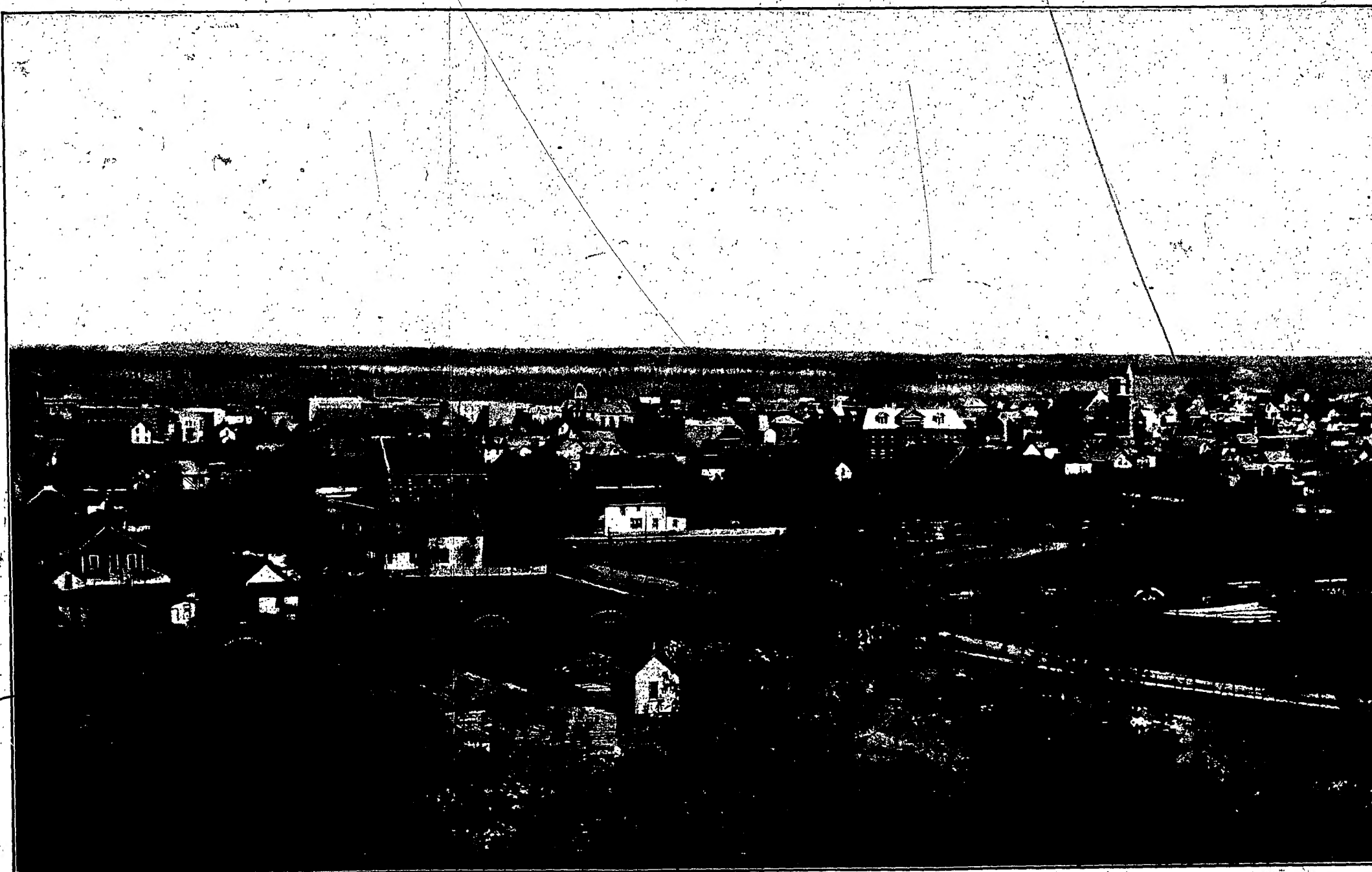
### A PICTURESQUE AND HEALTHY LOCATION.

Prince Albert possesses undoubtedly the most beautiful situation of any town or city in Western Canada. It lies on the South Bank of the North Saskatchewan river, that noble stream which flows through the Prairie Provinces all the way from the Rocky Mountains to Lake Winnipeg. At Prince Albert the river is about 350 yards wide and is spanned at this point by a splendid traffic and railway bridge built by the Canadian Northern Railway with assistance from the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan. About half a mile back of the river rises a gentle slope about 150 feet in altitude, known as "the Hill," upon which are growing up to-day residences that are already gaining for Prince Albert the name of the City of Beautiful Homes. The slope, and, indeed, the flat to the river front, is beautifully treed with evergreen firs and poplars, affording pleasant

THE IDEAL SPOT

FOR THE BRITISH SETTLER

PRINCE ALBERT



PRINCE ALBERT FROM THE HILL.

# THE IDEAL SPOT

rest for the eye in winter and cooling shade in summer. The river supplies the city with an unending supply of clean, pure water, and the slope gives it the necessary fall for a fine drainage system. At this point perhaps it cannot too plainly be emphasised that in coming to Prince Albert you are not coming to a backwoods village, but to a city with literally all the conveniences of a modern English city. Water is laid on, too, and there is a main drainage system to which every house is connected. The city and buildings are all lit with electric light, and have a telephone. It is even possible to talk to Winnipeg over the Government long-distance system.

## **A STEADILY GROWING PROGRESSIVE CITY.**

There has been settlement for a long time at Prince Albert, but not until the advent of the railways and the opening up of the fine farming areas around did the city itself start to increase in size to any great degree. In 1891 the population was only a few hundreds of isolated settlers, while to-day, just twenty years later, it is fully 8,000. The rateable value of the city has increased from £500,000 in 1906 to £1,500,000 in 1910. The last two years have seen a wonderful growth. For instance, the value of buildings started in 1909 was only £30,000, while in 1910 it was £130,000. Other statistics, such as Customs' returns and traffic receipts from the railroad, point to an equally healthy state of affairs. Be sure, therefore, of this: that in coming to Prince Albert you are coming to a community that is alive and on the threshold of an enormous development.

## **THE REASON OF IT.**

This development will be all the more rapid from now on. Railways are opening up the country in all directions around the city. Settlement is filling up fast the fine agricultural areas tributary to Prince Albert; capitalists are developing the magnificent timber areas to the north. In addition to this the Corporation this year is to start work on developing ten thousand hydro-electric horse-power from the river, which will give the city energy for manufacturing purposes at about £5 per horse-power per annum. This means that Prince Albert will rapidly become an industrial centre. It is the only city in the Province which can hope to be able to offer cheap power to industries. This expansion will need men with brains, it will need men with money, it will need men with muscle. There is no place in the West where any one possessed of any of these three can get such rich returns for his work.

If you are a capitalist your money is always worth, in

# FOR THE BRITISH SETTLER

the safest of investments, from six to ten per cent. If you are a labourer you can earn from eight to ten shillings a day, while if you have a trade you can earn anything up to 2s. 6d. an hour, which was the wage for bricklayers last autumn. No one need be afraid of being out of work in prosperous Prince Albert, provided he is sober and industrious. But it cannot too forcibly be impressed on the intending emigrant that if he is not both of these Canada is *not the place for him.*

## COST OF LIVING.

The cost of living in Prince Albert is very little more than it is in any of the big cities in the Old Country—that is to say, for ordinary household necessities. Clothing costs a little more and rents are somewhat higher, but these are the two main exceptions. A working man can live in a boarding house for about twenty-five shillings a week. As he earns from eight to ten shillings a day this leaves a good margin for saving. One can get all the necessities and most of the luxuries to which one has been accustomed at home in any of Prince Albert's splendid shops.

## SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

The moral upbringing of the young and the spiritual welfare of the elder are well looked after in Prince Albert. There is probably no city of its size in the West which is so well equipped with schools and churches. Here are some of the schools: A fine Collegiate Institute, costing £20,000, two large free municipal schools and a fine separate school, an up-to-date Anglican Ladies' College, and a well attended Convent. The following are the religious edifices: Roman Catholic Cathedral, Anglican Pro-Cathedral, an Anglican Church, two Presbyterian Churches, Baptist Church, Methodist Church, Salvation Army Barracks. The schools and churches are both well crowded. Additional school accommodation will certainly have to be provided at a very early date. A large number of fraternal societies have lodges here, and every form of sport flourishes. Prince Albert is also fortunate, in possessing two splendid hospitals of a most modern type; one is run by the city and the other by the Sisters of Zion.

## CLIMATE.

The climate of Prince Albert compares most favourably with that of the rest of the Province. The heavy growth of woods act as a pleasant shade from the scorching hot days of summer and a shelter from the biting winds of winter. The climate is one of extremes, ranging from ninety-five in the shade in the summer to below zero in the winter;

but it must always be borne in mind that in the first place these extremes of temperature never occur but half a dozen times in the season, and in the second that the dryness of the atmosphere causes them to be felt much less than in the Old Country. For instance, fifteen degrees of frost in England feels worse than fifty in Prince Albert.

### HOME LIFE.

One of the many attractive, pleasant features of Prince Albert is the pleasant home life to be found there. The visitor cannot help noticing this on seeing the beautiful residences springing up all over the city. They prove eloquently that this is the place the inhabitants look upon as "home." Here is none of the crude newness of the uncultured country, but a civilisation that would put many an older land to shame.

### SOME PRINCE ALBERT INDUSTRIES.

Prince Albert is the headquarters of the big timber industry in the Province of Saskatchewan. There is tributary to Prince Albert a timber area of not less than 7,500 square miles in extent, or an area equal to that of the Eastern Counties of England. This industry employs in and around Prince Albert some 2,000 men all summer and 3,000 all winter. The Prince Albert Lumber Company, whose mill is at Prince Albert, employ about a third of this number, while the Big River Lumber Company, whose mill is located at Cowan, some 75 miles to the north-west of the city, employ even more. The total cut of these two companies alone this winter is in the neighbourhood of a hundred million board feet. Other lumber companies are the Shell River Company and the Sturgeon Lake Company.

Prince Albert is very fortunate in having located in or near the city four fine brick yards. Prince Albert brick is in great demand all over the Province in places less fortunately situated. Brick so easily obtainable has given to Prince Albert an appearance of solidity which few other places in the West can boast.

Two meat-packing plants are already established in Prince Albert on generous lines, which will permit of their developing into two of the biggest industries on the continent.

There are also in Prince Albert three flour mills, two steam laundries, a first-class brewery, which also makes non-intoxicating drinks.

Prince Albert has five banks and eight hotels, including one building, the "Empress," which will be one of the most luxurious hotels west of Winnipeg.

### THE PROMISE OF THE FUTURE.

It may be well to consider briefly what the future holds in store for Prince Albert, what justification its citizens have for claiming that Prince Albert is destined to be one of the big centres of Western America.

Mention has been made of the lumber industry and other manufacturing enterprises now springing up in the city. Mention has also been made of the immediate development of the water-power from the Saskatchewan river giving cheap energy for all manufacturers; it remains then to consider what can be manufactured with profit, and how these products are to be conveyed to the consumer. In this connection it is well to take note of the Hudson Bay Railway. This line of railroad is in course of construction now. The Dominion Government is building a line from Pas Mission,



Sir Wilfrid Laurier addressing an open-air Meeting at Prince Albert.

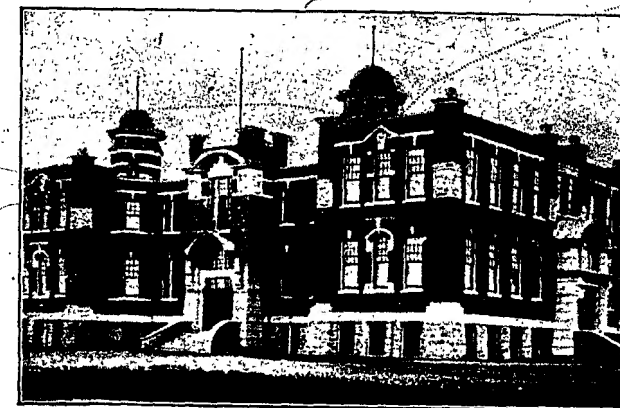
200 miles north-east of the city, to Hudson Bay, a distance of some five hundred miles, while the Hudson Bay and Pacific Company is expected to build a line directly from Prince Albert to the Bay, a distance of some six hundred. Prince Albert will be the first city that either line will tap. This means that Prince Albert will be in the same position to the West that Montreal to-day is to the whole of Canada. It will be three years or so before this line is finished, but when completed you will see the big bulk of settlers come in by Hudson Bay, and the big bulk of wheat and cattle from Canada, and British-made goods to Canada, come by this route. They will all come through Prince Albert. The distance by sea from Fort Churchill, the port of Hudson Bay, to Liverpool, is the same as the distance from Montreal to Liverpool.

Prince Albert then will be the big distributing centre for the Hudson Bay route; with its present railway facilities it is getting to be quite a busy little wholesale market even now. Then it will be the big manufacturing centre; cheap power and abundant raw material in the shape of pulp wood, minerals to the north, wheat for flour mills, cattle for packing plants, hides for leather, all ensure that.

### THE DISTRICT FOR THE BRITISH SETTLER.

There can be no question that the Prince Albert district is, above all things, the district for the British farmer. Not merely is the quality of the soil fully as good as that to be found in any part of the Canadian West, not merely are the crops absolutely safe from hot winds, hailstorms, early frosts, and droughts, which affect the farmer occasionally in other parts, but the nature of the country itself is such as he has been accustomed to very largely at home.

The American farmer likes the bare prairie without a tree, shrub, or hay meadow on it. For that reason he has not come up into the Prince Albert district in such numbers as he has into the bare, open country. In consequence, there is, even now, a very large quantity of land to be obtained close to Prince Albert at a very reasonable figure, say from £2 to £4 per acre; and there are also to be had large areas of Government free land, a great deal of it within a comparatively few miles of the railway. In fact, within a radius of forty miles of Prince Albert there are free Government lands amounting in area to the county of



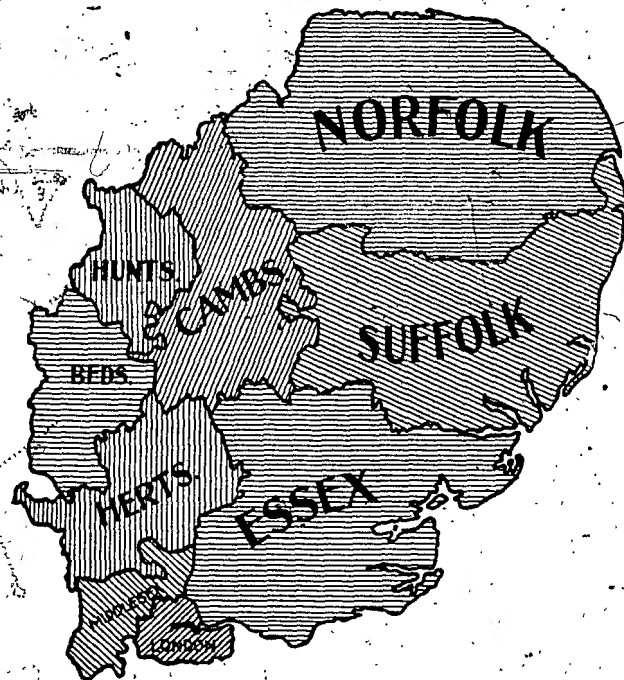
High School, Prince Albert, municipal and free.

Suffolk. A great deal of this land is within ten miles or less of a railway, and none of it is more than twenty-five miles away. In this case there is a railway surveyed quite close to it.

## THE SHELLBROOK COUNTRY.

To the West, at a distance of some thirty miles from Prince Albert, lies the fertile Shellbrook country, tapped by the Canadian Northern Railway. In this district are large areas of free Government lands and also considerable areas of company lands. The following description of the district is from the pen of Mr. Alexander McOwan, Canadian Government Emigration Agent for the West of England, and stationed at Exeter. Mr. McOwan previously had a wide experience of farming in the Canadian West. Mr. McOwan, in an account of a trip through the district, says, in part:—

"The country we tapped was certainly beautiful, but it was something more. It suggested richness of soil almost inexhaustible. Here was the rich black loam of Manitoba, which in spots had stood cultivation for a hundred years without diminishing in fertility—a country of open park-



### THE EASTERN COUNTIES.

The timber forests north of Prince Albert cover an area equal to the Eastern Counties of England.

touched the fringes of it. It was hard going with a four-wheeled rig, and we had to chop our way at times through the poplar, or force the horses to breast through the lightest

like glades where the wild pea-vine and vetch grew breast-high, alternating with clumps of tall white poplar. There are patches of willow and low spots, with nice hay meadows and little gem-like lakes, most of them without a touch of alkali. There was an odd settler's log cabin dotted here and there, and the solitude was sometimes broken by the sound of the cow-bell. And when we caught sight of the cattle picking at the pea-vine on the high spots or the juicy grass of the bottoms, they were sleek, well-conditioned animals, bearing ample testimony to the suitability of their environment.

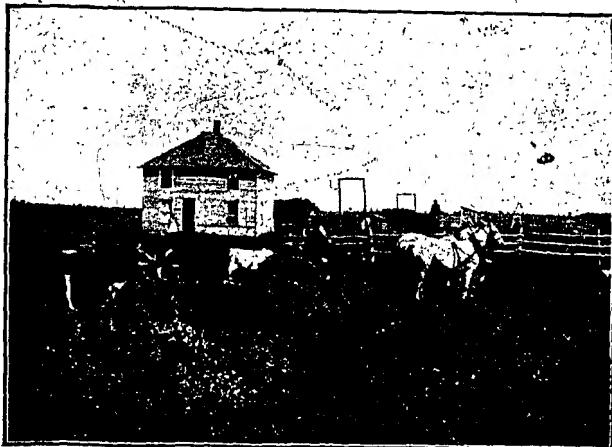
### ONLY THE FRINGE.

"We cruised around for a week through such country, camping where night overtook us, and felt that we had only

of the scrub, but always beyond these leafy barriers would stretch out another open space with vegetation on it, giving the assurance of richness. This was no lazy man's country, where the settler can plough a mile without striking an obstacle, as they do on the prairies, but one feels that the quality is there, and that the soil will repay the extra effort. And then clearing poplar and willow is not a hard task, for the roots have no hold to speak of. Homesteads are to be got in this region within a few miles of a new line of railway, of which probably 100 acres would be clear land, or have at the most only an occasional patch of scrub. The presence of this growth is reassuring, for it is a certain indication of moisture. Where the poplar and willow flourish drought is unknown, while they are a further evidence of quality of soil. They are moreover, a guarantee of plentiful fuel to keep the house warm in winter, as well as shelter for the buildings and stock from the biting winds.

### THE PLACE FOR OLD COUNTRYMEN.

"One frequently hears the Old Countryman complain of the monotony of the open prairie, but there is none of that feeling amongst the park lands. One might be at home in rural England but for the different feel in the air, which is the very opposite in its tonic qualities from the



A farm at Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.



On the homestead, Prince Albert district.



A typical farm in the Prince Albert district.

enervating characteristics of this humid clime. Now that the prairie regions are well settled and free grants of land are becoming scarce there, these fertile north lands will attract increasing attention. Once let a few Old Country

people penetrate these regions, and I feel confident that they will gain in popularity. There has been a long-existing idea that the Prince Albert district lies too far north, but this is the result of misapprehension, and possibly misrepresentation. Prince Albert City is not so far north as Edmonton, which is a populous city of assured future, and for long the centre of a rich farming district. And Prince Albert is nearly, if not quite, four hundred miles down the Saskatchewan River from Edmonton, and therefore at a considerably lower elevation. This matter of altitudes is well worthy of consideration, for lower elevations mitigate greatly the rigours of winter.

"In my opinion the essentials for settlers possessed of meagre capital are: cheap fuel, good water, and natural pasture. These they have in abundance, without money



**Central Avenue, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.**

and without price, in the districts to which I refer. But they would cost a small income out of capital during the first years of development in a purely prairie country. There is so much natural feed for stock, especially cattle and hogs, that these districts are essentially mixed farming districts, and only the improvident would neglect the opportunities of the handsome dividends which the natural resources of the country afford for stock-raising."

#### **A FINE MARKET.**

While the foregoing is a description of the Shellbrook country it is very largely true of all the Prince Albert district so far as the nature of the country is concerned. Close to Prince Albert, however, there are not many homesteads, although there is any quantity of fine farming land

to be picked up at a very low figure. It must always be remembered, too, that in the City of Prince Albert the farmer has a market for everything he can raise. The lumber camps in the winter require hay and oats in large quantities for their horses; they require meat and vegetables for their men; while the growing population of the city itself means an increased demand all the time for the products of the farmer.

Scattered all through the farming areas are school districts, and every five miles or so is to be found a country school house; and in the more remote districts this acts on Sundays as a church, but in any well-settled area some denomination or other will be found to have its building. The farmer, therefore, going into a comparatively new district need not be afraid of going completely out of civilisation.

### **HOW TO OBTAIN FREE LANDS.**

Every person who is the sole head of a family and every male who has attained the age of eighteen years, is entitled to obtain entry for a homestead, to the extent of one quarter section of 160 acres, on payment of an entry free of ten dollars.

A widow having minor children of her own dependent on her for support is permitted to make homestead entry as the sole head of a family.

Application for entry must be made by the applicant in person.

Application for homestead entry by proxy is permitted, however, in the case of a person making entry on behalf of a father, mother, son, daughter, brother, or sister, when duly authorised to do so in the form prescribed. In such case the proxy must appear before the Land Agent for the district in person.

Residence for six months in each of the three years, after homestead entry, satisfies the residence requirement necessary to entitle the entrant to patent.

A homesteader who resides on his homestead is required to break a total of at least 30 acres of the homestead (of which 20 must be cropped) before applying for patent. A reasonable proportion of the cultivation duties must be done during each year.

When the duties are being performed under the regulations permitting residence in the vicinity, the total required to be broken will be at least 50 acres (of which 30 must be cropped).